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82 having sharp edges extending circumferentially around the inner diameter and around the outer diameter thereof. A plurality of polymeric protection members are wrapped circumferentially around the core and positioned adjacent the sharp edges of the core. The protection members have a short leg positioned adjacent an end of the core. A coated wire is wrapped around the core so as to be magnetically coupled thereto and around the polymeric protection members so as to be displaced from the sharp edges of the core. Polymeric protection members and methods for manufacturing such members and for fabricating devices using such members are also provided.--

In the Claims:

Please replace Claims 7, 14, 18, 19, 24, 29, 33, 38 and 56 with the following:

83 7. (Amended) The device of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the protection members further comprises a first end and a second end thereof, the first end and second end defining mating angles at an overlapping region of the protection members when the protection members are wrapped around the core so as to extend around all of one of the sharp edges of the core without a bump discontinuity at the overlapping region.

84 14. (Amended) The device of Claim 1 wherein the protection members comprise a crosslinked polymeric material having a dielectric strength selected to limit breakdown of the protection members caused by magnetic fields generated around the core.

85 18. (Amended) An electromagnetic device comprising:
an electrically conductive core having an inner diameter defining an opening therethrough and an outer diameter, the core having sharp edges extending circumferentially around the inner diameter and around the outer diameter thereof;

a plurality of polymeric protection members wrapped circumferentially around the core and positioned adjacent the sharp edges of the core, at least one of the protection members having at least one short leg positioned adjacent at least one end of the core, wherein the short leg has a length selected to provide a substantially flat surface on the end of the core when the at least one protection member is wrapped around the core; and

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a coated wire wrapped around the core so as to be magnetically coupled thereto and around the polymeric protection members so as to be displaced from the sharp edges of the core.

19. (Amended) The device of Claim 18 wherein the protection members comprise a crosslinked polymeric material having a dielectric strength selected to limit breakdown of the protection members caused by magnetic fields generated around the core.

24. (Amended) The device of Claim 18 wherein ones of the protection members further comprise a first end and a second end thereof, the first end and second end defining mating angles at an overlapping region of the protection members when the protection members are wrapped around the core so as to extend around all of one of the sharp edges of the core without a bump discontinuity at the overlapping region.

29. (Amended) A protection member for a device including a sharp-edged core and an elongate member wrapped therearound, the protection member comprising a polymeric L-shaped strip having a short leg configured to be positioned adjacent an end of the core, abutting a circumferentially extending sharp edge of the core, and a long leg extending substantially transversely from the short leg so as to be positioned adjacent a circumferential face of the core, wherein the short leg has a length selected to provide a substantially flat surface on the end of the core when wrapped around the core.

33. (Amended) The device of Claim 29 wherein the protection member comprises a crosslinked polymeric material having a dielectric strength selected to limit breakdown of the protection member caused by magnetic fields generated around the core.

38. (Amended) The device of Claim 29 wherein the protection member further comprises a first end and a second end thereof, the first end and second end defining mating angles at an overlapping region of the protection member when the protection member is wrapped around the core so as to extend around all of the sharp edge of the core without a bump discontinuity at the overlapping region.

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56. (Amended) An electromagnetic device comprising:

an electrically conductive core having at least one circumferentially extending sharp edge;

at least one polymeric protection member wrapped circumferentially around the core and positioned adjacent the at least one circumferentially extending sharp edge of the core, the at least one protection member further comprising a first end and a second end thereof, the first end and second end defining mating angles at an overlapping region of the at least one protection member when the protection member is wrapped around the core so as to extend around all of the at least one circumferentially extending sharp edge of the core without a bump discontinuity at the overlapping region; and

an insulated wire wrapped around the core so as to be magnetically coupled thereto and around the at least one polymeric protection member so as to be displaced from the at least one circumferentially extending sharp edge of the core.

Please add the following new claims:

59. (New) The device of Claim 1 wherein the polymeric protection members are wrapped around the core without a wire therebetween.

60. (New) The device of Claim 1 wherein at least one of the polymeric protection members extends circumferentially around all of a corresponding one of the sharp edges.

61. (New) The device of Claim 1 wherein the polymeric protection members prevent the coated wire from contacting the sharp edges.

62. (New) The device of Claim 1 wherein the polymeric protection members adhesively contact the core.

63. (New) The device of Claim 18 wherein at least one of the polymeric protection members contacts the core.

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64. (New) The device of Claim 18 wherein the polymeric protection members are wrapped around the core without a wire therebetween.

65. (New) The device of Claim 18 wherein at least one of the polymeric protection members extends circumferentially around all of a corresponding one of the sharp edges.

66. (New) The device of Claim 18 wherein the polymeric protection members prevent the coated wire from contacting the sharp edges.

67. (New) The device of Claim 18 wherein the polymeric protection members adhesively contact the core.

68. (New) The protection member of Claim 29 wherein the elongate member has a length selected to extend circumferentially around all of the circumferentially extending sharp edge of the core.

69. (New) The device of Claim 56 wherein the at least one polymeric protection member is wrapped around the core without a wire therebetween.

70. (New) The device of Claim 56 wherein the at least one polymeric protection member prevents the insulated wire from contacting the at least one circumferentially extending sharp edge.

71. (New) The device of Claim 56 wherein the polymeric protection members adhesively contact the core.

72. (New) The device of Claim 56 wherein the at least one polymeric protection member contacts the core.